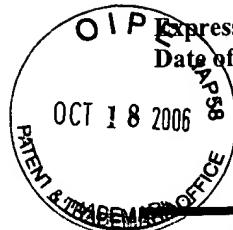


10-20-06



Express Mail Label No.: EV886686608US
Date of Deposit: October 18, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 27353-501 UTIL

AF
SFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS :	Blackburn, <i>et al.</i>	CONFIRMATION NUMBER :	4288
SERIAL NUMBER :	09/967,321	EXAMINER :	Lam, Ann Y.
FILING DATE :	October 1, 2001	ART UNIT :	1641
FOR :	Methods		

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response to Final Office Action dated April 18, 2006 under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 (14 pages);
2. Notice of Appeal under 37 C.F.R. §1.191 (1 page);
3. Check Number 3448 in the amount of \$250.00 for the appeal fee;
4. Petition for Extension of Time (1 page);
5. Check Number 3447 in the amount of \$510.00 for the Extension Fee; and
6. Return Postcard.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (212) 935-3000, New York, New York.

No additional fees are believed to be due at this time. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311 Ref. No. 27353-501 UTIL. Please address all correspondence to Customer Number 35437. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Iwamoto

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Michelle A. Iwamoto, Reg. No. 55,296
Attorneys/Agents for Applicants
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN, *et al.*
666 Third Avenue-24th Floor
New York, New York 10017
Telephone: (212) 983-3000
Telefax: (212) 983-3115

Dated: October 18, 2006